What are Career Clusters?
- **Career Clusters** are a framework that serves as an organizing tool for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, curriculum design and instruction.
- There are **16 Career Clusters** that represent **79 Career Pathways** to help learners navigate their way to greater success in college and career.

What are Career Pathways?
- A **Career Pathway** is a roadmap leading to a chosen career and includes:
  - occupations within the pathway,
  - general and technical courses for both secondary and post-secondary,
  - dual and articulated credit opportunities,
  - related industry certificates, apprenticeships, associate's and bachelor's degrees,
  - entry and exit points for semi-, mid-, and high-level skilled careers to support life-long learning.

Why do we need Career Clusters and Career Pathways?

Career development has evolved from the **vocational education** framework of the past to today's **career/technical education** framework. Career Clusters and Career Pathways are tools for students to use in developing **Individual Learning Plans** to guide educational decisions as they transition to high school.

Vocational (Then)	Career/Technical (Now)
For a few students	For all students
For a few "jobs"	For all "careers"
6-7 program areas	16 clusters – 81 pathways: courses
In lieu of academics	Aligns with and supports academics
Less rigorous	Requires highly specialized knowledge/skills set by industry
High school focused	High school, postsecondary and industry partnerships

How are Career Clusters used?

Interest and aptitude surveys usually provide students with a list of suitable careers. Although a valuable tool, it provides no direction for achieve that goal. Career Clusters allow students to explore a variety of careers matching their interests.

How are Career Pathways used?

Each Career Pathway lists related occupations and describes the courses, both general and technical, necessary to achieve a specific career goal. The Pathway outlines opportunities for earning dual/articulated credit, apprenticeships and industry certificates in high school and outlines transitional possibilities for the postsecondary world.

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Agribusiness Systems
- Animal Systems
- Environmental Service Systems
- Food Products & Processing Systems
- Natural Resources Systems
- Plant Systems
- Power, Structural & Technical Systems

Architecture & Construction
- Construction
- Design/Pre-Construction
- Maintenance/Operations

Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- A/V Technology & Film
- Journalism & Broadcasting
- Performing Arts
- Printing Technology
- Telecommunications
- Visual Arts

Business Management & Administration
- Administrative Support
- Business Information Management
- General Management
- Human Resources Management
- Operations Management

Education & Training
- Administration & Administrative Support
- Professional Support Services
- Teaching/Training

Finance
- Accounting
- Banking Services
- Business Finance
- Insurance
- Securities & Investments

Government & Public Administration
- Foreign Service
- Governance
- National Security
- Planning
- Public Management & Administration
- Regulation
- Revenue & Taxation

Health Sciences
- Biotechnology Research & Development
- Diagnostic Services
- Health Informatics
- Support Services
- Therapeutic Services

Hospitality & Tourism
- Lodging
- Recreation, Amusements & Attractions
- Restaurants & Food/Beverage Services
- Travel & Tourism

Human Services
- Consumer Services
- Counseling & Mental Health Services
- Early Childhood Development & Services
- Family & Community Services
- Personal Care Services

Information Technology
- Information Support & Services
- Network Systems
- Programming & Software Development
- Web & Digital Communications

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Correction Services
- Emergency & Fire Management Services
- Law Enforcement Services
- Legal Services
- Security & Protective Services

Manufacturing
- Health, Safety & Environmental Assurance
- Logistics & Inventory Control
- Maintenance, Installation & Repair
- Manufacturing Production Process Dev.
- Production
- Quality Assurance

Marketing
- Marketing Communications
- Marketing Management
- Marketing Research
- Merchandising
- Professional Sales

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Engineering & Technology
- Science & Mathematics

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
- Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance
- Health, Safety & Environmental Management
- Logistics Planning & Management Services
- Sales & Service
- Transportation Operations
- Transportation Systems/Infrastructure Planning, Management & Regulation
- Warehousing & Distribution Center Operations